

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY  
SECURITY INFORMATION

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Italy

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Lesson II of Brief Union Course Given by the CGIL of Milan; 21 pp; Italian;

The answers to the eight-question questionnaire at the end of the document are:

Analysis and Judgment of Wars

1. War is a direct result of inner contradictions in class society; the continuation of the policy of certain classes which have recourse to more violent methods to solve these contradictions by force.

2. Wars may be just or unjust. Much is dependent on which class conducts it, the aims of the conflict (territorial annexation), and advantage or disadvantage to the working class and the revolution. History generally considers the wars fought by the bourgeoisie from 1789 to 1871 as being just. The wars of the Risorgimento were undoubtedly just; Germany's war against Napoleon III had the just purpose of unity and independence. War is the only escape from the economic depressions provoked by the capitalist system. Capitalism has now reached its third and decadent stage: imperialism.

3. The struggle for peace is an aspect of the struggle for Socialism. The Bolsheviks were militantly for peace, to the point where the war-mongering, imperialist bourgeoisie would lose its power.

Threat of World War III

4. The United States is in a crisis of overproduction, and unless she chooses to cultivate peace and commerce with USSR and the People's Democracies, she will go the way of traditional imperialists who conquer their foreign markets violently, that is, by war.

5. The coexistence of the socialist and capitalist systems is possible only if based on free and peaceful competition, that is, a free exchange of industrial products, farm produce, and also of all that is good in science and the arts. The capitalists, however, are afraid of competition with the superior socialist system. We do not know when the peoples of the various countries will complete the socialist revolution. Therefore the peaceful coexistence of the two systems is possible until the day of revolutionary accomplishment.

World Peace Movement; Union Participation

6. The criminal planning of the third great war by international capitalism is opposed by powerful forces of obstruction. The UN is a tool in the hands of US imperialism, and only organized World opposition can prevent the war of extermination. The Stockholm Plebiscite stopped Truman from dropping the atomic bomb on Korea. The most important participants in this movement are the World Union Federation and all the Italian federations which belong to it.

7. The CGIL is in perfect agreement with the position of the World Union Federation on the World Peace Movement. The CGIL adapts the world aims of the WUF to conditions in Italy.

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8. If the working class becomes conscious of its strength, and does not overestimate the power of its enemy; if the working class uses all the forces interested in peace, under the guidance of its organizations and its political parties, then, and only then, war is evitable.

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